

NEXT MEETING FRIDAY JANUARY 29th 1
25-1-82 7.30pm, EDUCATION CENTRE.

B.A.R.G. MEETING, 27th of NOVEMBER 1981, Education Center, Ballarat

President Dick XCV opened the meeting at 7.43P.M.

APOLOGIES were received from AAI and IWN Keith, and A.Snowball

A visitor, Andrew, was welcomed to the group

MINUTES of the last meeting had been distributed and were accepted

Eric ZL/Bill DWJ

CORRESPONDENCE: (out) Letter from Dick XCV to the Ballarat umpires association regarding possible sharing of their club facilities; no reply as yet

(in): 1. Station licence for Beacon VK3RMB from D.O.C.

2. AR magazine frm. WIA

3. Bill from Ed.Center for stationery printing

4. Reply from E.Trebilcock re possible amendments to the planned constitution

5. Various newsletters from GARC, Illawarra ARC, WIA.

6. Several award applications (passed on to Maurie)

7. Letter of thanks (J.Wright)

George VEI/Bill DWJ

TREASURER'S REPT.: In absence of Keith, Ernie DET reported the club's current Cr. Balance as \$247.52; after payments of acc.

V3&L on-call ac. \$250.-; 30-day ac. \$800.-

Cliff PAF/ZBS Brian

3L and AWARDS: Maurie stated that all in and outward traffic is still moving smoothly, has sorted 4-5000 cards f. bureau (and netted 150 for the club in doing so). He also paid \$3.- to Clarrie VEZ for left-over mailing tubes. In all 5 more Pegonia awards and 78 DX widow awards were sold. He also presented another \$100.- to the treasurer from those sales and thus embarrassed him greatly, hi.

Cliff PAF reported that so far 17 net sessions were held with abt. 27 locals participating (on and off) and that abt. 108 call-ins were recorded in that time, Nice show, Cliff, and jolly good PR for the club and the city, too.

PUBLICITY: George DS produced a rather ancient and barren visitor's book, XCV produced some temp. name tags for use at club meetings. George also mentioned an idea about a "bash" for the whole club sometime with the Eureka emblem as the prize certificate, -will be discussed later, I hope.

EDUCATION: Jim ANH was reluctant to comment, he said, about the outcome of the recent novice exam and would rather wait

Until after the fatal date of Dec. 16th, -good luck to the candidates!

TECHNICAL REPORT: Dick VU tried hard to explain the latest poop on the fate of the repeater, the essence of it being that its still undergoing tests and will probably be up and going sometime early next year, we hope.

PROPERTY: George VEI having recently been appointed official property officer, reminded the group that all gear owned by the group should be listed with him and that arrangements for use and loans would have to be made with him.

NEWSLETTER: Asst. Editor Dick VU was very pleased with himself about the constantly improving magazine, and so he should. Its starting to look really "professional" and will be better yet. He also reminded the group, that the costs per head per year for the newsletter alone were \$4.00 and that some re-thinking on the subject of subscription costs is long overdue, hint-hint.

He also proposed, that the club station licence (BML) and the repeater licence RMB should be transferred into his name as the licensee, since the current holder was no longer active in the club.

FURTHER BUSINESS: Brian ZB3 mentioned, that the western zone net management was to be shared between 4 clubs (Horsham, Hamilton, Warrnambool & Ballarat) and that it would be our turn again next march to do the honours. A final reminder about the end-of-year bash at the RED LION on the 11th Dec., 7PM- should be a good one, so make the effort, fellers, and bring the XYL, YL or both.

CONSTITUTION: As proposed earlier, copies of the final-final amendments to the proposed constitution were distributed to all present and, after only a very brief debate, Arth. VK3LJ put the motion (seconded by Dick VU) that the document be accepted as presented and was voted for unanimously. (Very much to president Dick's surprise).

Setting an alltime record for meetings, the official part was then closed at 8.20 P.M.

A really good yarn was then had by all.

Since there is still space left on this page, I would like to take this opportunity (as Secretary and as "one of the boys") to wish all members a very peaceful christmas and a prosperous 1982

849 5 8

If you have tried to identify American stations from the callbook you will have had trouble in finding out which state they are located in. This is because the UPS uses a two letter abbreviation for mailing addresses. Below is listed all the American states by call areas and also the two letter abbreviation for postal purposes.

FIRST CALL AREA

Connecticut (CT)
Maine (ME)
Massachusetts (MA)
New Hampshire (NH)
Rhode Island (RI)
Vermont (VT)

SECOND CALL AREA

New York (NY)
New Jersey (NJ)

THIRD CALL AREA

Delaware (DE)
Maryland (MD)
Pennsylvania (PA)

FOURTH CALL AREA

Alabama (AL)
Florida (FL)
Georgia (GA)
Kentucky (KY)
North Carolina (NC)
South Carolina (SC)
Tennessee (TN)
Virginia (VA)

FIFTH CALL AREA

Arkansas (AR)
Louisiana (LA)
Mississippi (MS)
New Mexico (NM)
Oklahoma (OK)
Texas (TX)

SIXTH CALL AREA

California (CA)
Hawaii (HI)

SEVENTH CALL AREA

Arizona (AZ)
Alaska (AK)
Idaho (ID)
Montana (MT)
Nevada (NV)
Oregon (OR)
Utah (UT)
Washington (WA)
Wyoming (WY)

EIGHTH CALL AREA

Michigan (MI)
Ohio (OH)
West Virginia (WV)

NINTH CALL AREA

Illinois (IL)
Wisconsin (WI)
Indiana (IN)

TENTH CALL AREA

Colorado (CO)
Iowa (IA)
Kansas (KS)
Minnesota (MN)
Missouri (MO)
Nebraska (NE)
North Dakota (ND)
South Dakota (SD)

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AN OLD TIMERS HISTORY

This is the history of VK3ZL and I did not want to write it up but have done so under the duress of Woody, VK3AGD.

My very first contact was on 21-3-32 with Bob VK3GR on CW who incidently was a great help to me in gaining my Amateur Licence. This contact was made at law on 7MHz. (Boy was I nervous). The rig at this time was a TNT osc self excited to a power amp stage running on 95v dry batteries. My people did not have power in the house at that time as our lighting was gas. I made many contacts on this little rig both local and interstate. About the middle of 1932 I rebuilt the rig. Self-excited osc was a UX247 and power amplifier a E408N using Telefunken modulation. We used to patch in recordings in those days to check for audio quality.

I used many types of microphones, all home made such as the carbon type and later the ribbon or velocity which were all the range in the broadcast stations. The condenser microphone was also used for many years.

The 7MHz Zep antenna (end fed) with tuned feeders worked very well on 14,7 and 3.5 Mhz. The receiver at this time was a TRF (electric) using an RF stage, regenerative detector and an audio stage producing 2-3 W out.

Eventually we had to build superheterodynes to get better selectivity. Around the years 1932-1934 we had many good hookups with most states mainly on 3.5MHz. Some people did not have power to run their rigs so they had to have motor generators or some other means to drive their generators to obtain the few hundred volts for plate supply etc. Poly, VK7CK (now a silent key) used to dam up a creek running through his property during the day and open a small gate and let the dammed up water run away and drive a water wheel which in turn drove a generator which provided the high voltage required to run the rig. After a couple of hours of operation all the water ran away so Poly went off the air until next evening.

A humorous story concerns Alf Harris VK3CH of Birchip during these years. Alf used to run the power station at Birchip and the gas engine driving the generator for the town electricity supply ran off a producer gas plant using coke. When Alf was in the round-table QSO's every now and then he would have to retire for a short while, while he went down to the power station to throw a couple of bags of coke into the producer. He would not worry about it until the lights started to dim and the irate townspeople would ring him and complain that the lights were going out. I have not heard Alf for many years now but believe he moved interstate.

Some time in these early years of my Amateur Radio, Quartz crystals became the in thing so everyone went to crystal control. During 1933-1934 I rebuilt the rig again using a UX247 as a crystal oscillator and a UX247 as a doubler or buffer and a UX245 modulated amplifier by Phillips EO40N which then drove a new RCA800. The first of the 800 series tubes as a class B linear amplifier with about 80W of output. At about this time I shifted to my present QTH and became interested in 14 MHz.

In 1936-37, to the best of my knowledge, I built the first 2 element rotary beam in this country. The beam was a copy of the "Allims Signal Squirter" as described in QST in 1936. It had one driven element and one reflector both made of wire. Later I redesigned it to make some self supporting elements up to 17 Ft long. They were tapered from 1 3/8" diameter at the butt to 3/8" at the outer end and were made of sheet galvanised iron and had four flutes running down the full length to give them strength. These elements were held on to the supporting structure by only 3 feet of the butt end and remained straight and true from 1938 to 1968 when I took them down to replace them with the new tower and beam.

After the war when the Amateurs came back, I rebuilt the rig again, this time crystal oscillator, doubler and 807 amplifier driving an Eimac 35T triode running 80 Watts modulated with a pair of 807's in class AB and high level negative peak clipping. This rig was very effective and I had many fine contacts over the years.

8/1/97

In 1947 I became very interested in 50MHz. I built a 3 element beam and transmitter. My first contact out of Ballarat was to Keith VK3HK at Mitcham at 1825 EST on 22-6-47. My first interstate contact was to VK4PG at 1545 EST on 22-6-47. My first VK7 contact was to VK7AB at 2000 EST on 13-12-47. I believe it was the first VK3-VK7 50MHz contact. As time went by I was able to work every year around the Ross Hull contest time, all VK call areas and ZL with the exception of VKØ since there were no VKØ's then. I operated 50MHz and 144MHz consistantly for many years but went of the air (50MHz) with the advent of channel O T.V. (The demise of 50-52MHz)

The first 144MHz contact out of Ballarat was made with Ern VK3EH on 21-12-48 from this present location. Eventually the 144MHz antennas were improved and today is a 21 element array consisting of 3 x 7 elements stacked.

After I stopped operating 50MHz in 1956 I decided that I would go back to HF so I built a DSB rig with plug in coils for 20,40 and 80 Mx. I worked a lot of DX on 14 MHz and nobody knew whether it was DSB or SSB. The system used a low level balanced modulator and a linear amplifier with about 50-60 watts output. I used this rig for about 2½ years and then built a 3 band transceiver with 70-100 Watts output which served me faithfully for about 15 years. Incidentally, the transmitter now operates on 1.8 MHz. (i.e. the DSB transmitter)

About the time I retired about 7 years ago, I thought I would like some commercial gear so I bought my first "Black Box". I now have a couple of them, they are nice but from now on if I want any new gear and cannot make it then I will do without it. I will not mind buying a bit of measuring equipment. I have got myself very interested in 144 MHz SSB and hope to go higher in frequency soon. I was very interested in the moonbounce efforts of Ron VK3AKC (now a silent key) and had the pleasure of building him the 6 tube 1KW cavity ring amplifier for 1296 MHz. It was all constructed from brass and a very satisfying project it was.

Well, this has been the story of my Amateur life.....

73's, ERIC VK3ZL

DX NOTES

Continuing on from my article last month regarding working the DX. If you want to QSL directly to the DX station then there a few rules or guidelines that you should follow. I have mentioned these before but it always helps to reprint them for our newer members.

- (1) Do not cover the envelope with fancy stamps. Unfortunately not all postal services are as honest as ours and a lot of them have very active stamp collectors. Guess what happens to your QSL card?
- (2) Do not make any mention of amateur radio callsigns on envelopes. Astute people can guess what is inside and bingo, the card is "lost"
- (3) Do not send U.S. dollar bills to countries where the Americans are unpopular at the moment. e.g. Cuba and some other Central American countries. You could unwittingly get another Ham into trouble. This especially applies to the Eastern Bloc countries. Use I.R.C.'s.
- (4) Always send an S.A.S.E. with your card. And, make sure it is large enough. Do not send Australian stamps for return postage. (Not much good outside Oz. Even on Norfolk Is they are not used.
- (5) Always make sure you have your card made out in GMT and the CORRECT GMT day is used. I have a box full of A35RF cards here with the wrong days on them. Managers tend to become very impatient with people who don't know what day it is Hi.
- (6) Try to use the buro where possible. That is what is there for. Remember, you must be a W.I.A. member and no more than 5 words of greeting on the card.
- (7) Use U.S. dollars if you can. They cost only 85¢ now as against 60¢ EACH for I.R.C.'s. In some countries I.R.C.'s are no good. IE Nauru.
- (8) If the DX station indicates he is a stamp collector, then put the good stamps inside the envelope (oops). See section (1)

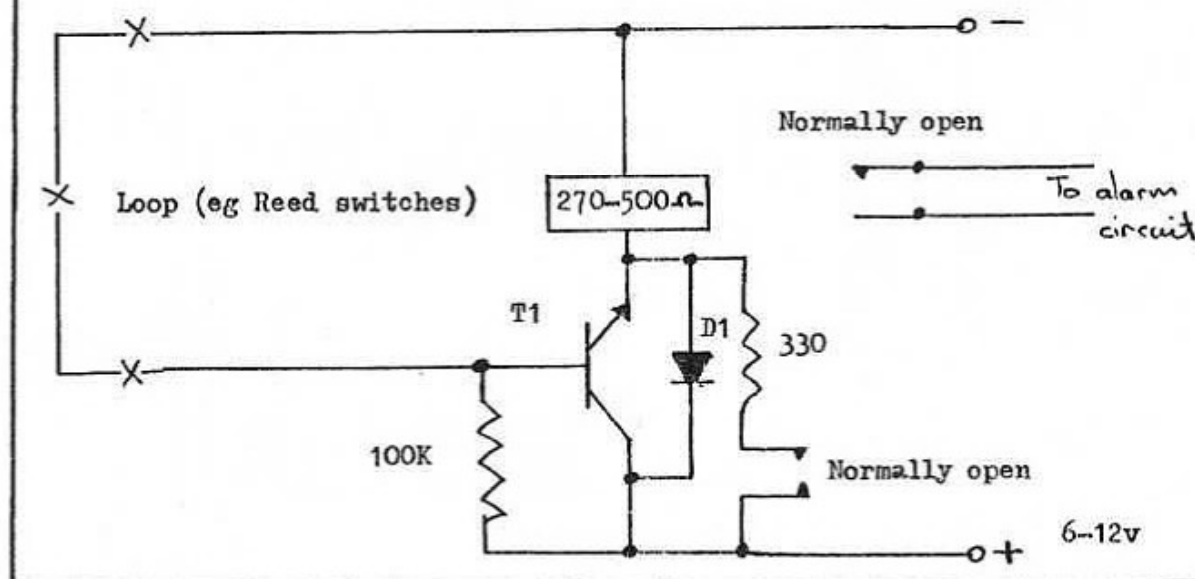
73's DICK VK3VU

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SHACK SECURITY

Made many of these commercially years ago and can vouch for their effectiveness. The main advantage lies in the fact that a high resistance is tolerated in the input loop..up to 100,00 ohms. This means that quite long runs of fine wire can be made to cover window ribbons, reed switches on doors etc and pressure mats, also any poor contacts. Also of course it cannot be "wired out". When the loop is broken the transistor conducts and closes the relay which latches itself on and operates whatever type of noise producer you favour such as a bell inside the house. If it is intended to operate something like a car horn then a second relay with heavy duty contacts is advisable. Battery drain of the device is very small. Almost any NPN transistor works and voltage from six to twelve. VK3DS



FURTHER DX NOTES

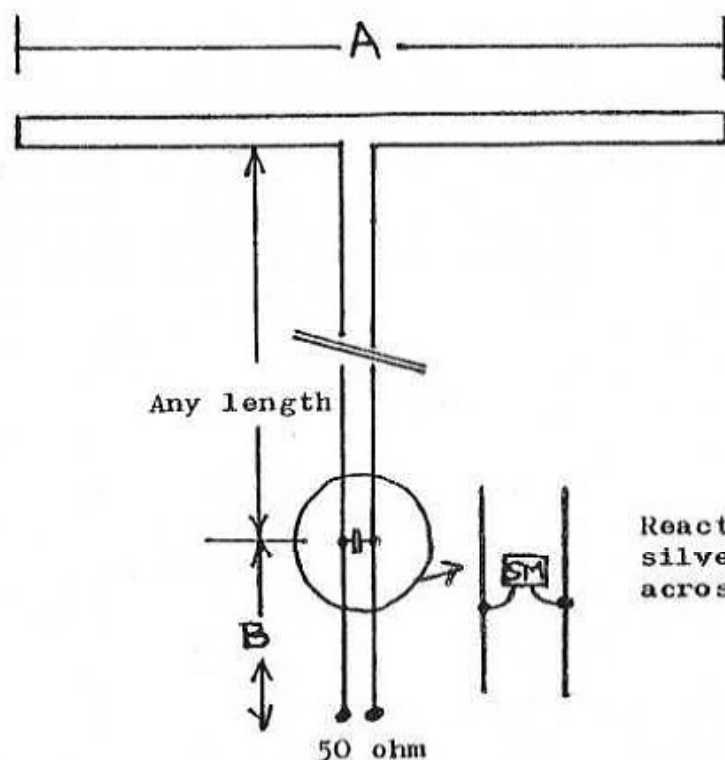
Whilst reading through some old Amateur Radio magazines I came across this little piece of interesting information and comment. "The DX ethics of some of the W stations on one or two of the rare ones that appeared namely, VR7AB, FR7ZA and FK8 made one wonder just what is happening to the Ham spirit as it used to be known". Times havent really changed have they?. Also in the same issue of the magazine was a list of DX stations worked by VK amateurs. viz; EK1FM, FR7ZA, KZ5AW, ZD2DCP, VR4AF, 4W1AC, VS9AW, MP4HBK, FA9IO, 9S4BS, MI3AB, VQ3BM, FN8AD, TA3AA, PK4PD, GC3HFE, 5A3TL, FQ8AP, 3V8BB, CR5UP, ZC2AC.

The DXCC listing for that month was headed by VK3BZ with 220 confirmed with certificate No. 4. VK6RU was 4th on the list with 191 confirmed. Incidentally 6RU now only needs to work Bouvet Is (3Y) to have worked the lot. He sure has been at it a long time and is still very active on the DX bands.

P.S. Info from "A.R." April 1953

73's till next month, VK3VU

FOLDED DIPOLE ANTENNA TO 50 OHM TRANSMITTERS



Readers may have missed this very handy idea from 81 ARRL. Tried and found to be good by 3ds.

Antenna and down lead are 300 ohm TV ribbon. Note. Open wire feeder has the lowest loss factor and best mechanical strength but ribbon works well. Velocity factor .8

Reactance correction silver mica cond. across line

Alternative method open stub at right angles to down lead.

DIMENSIONS.

In feet and inches. Meters = Ftx.305. MM=ins X 25.4

Frequency	Length A	Length B	Condenser	Stub length
3.750	124 9 1/2	13 3 1/2	289 pf	38 2 1/2
7.150	65 5 1/2	6 11 1/2	152 pf	20 1 1/2
14.175	33	3 6	76 pf	10 1
21.225	22 1/2	2 4	51 pf	6 9
28.500	16 5	1 9	38 pf	5 1/2

Note. 1. Ordinary little SM condensers are OK at 1KW PEP. (SM=Silver Mica)

Note 2 . Grid dip the antenna to frequency. Take a length of ribbon about the correct length. Short one end. Twitch the wires together at the other end to make a small loop to couple to GDO. Trim off inch at a time until spot on. Solder ends. Fold in half to establish centre and open one wire to connect feeder I pull one end up the pole about 40 ft, stretch reasonably tight and tie with a scrap of cord about 6 ft above ground while trimming. There is very little change when it is pulled up to full height. Am presently using this idea on a two element on 40 made of ribbon.

VK3DS

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Advertisements

Dummy Load Non Inductive 50 ohm Resistors. 50 Watts in air,
500 watts in a can of oil. \$ 12.00 ea.

Type "N" connectors. Superb quality . Take up to 14 mm co-ax
cable \$12.00 ea.

TOWER. 50 ft Hills wind up unused. The two heavy bottom sections
of a 75 footer with ladder on the lower section. \$275.00

Cage for heavy duty rotator to fit the top of the above
tower . Cadmium plated, weight reduced and fitted with new
thrust bearing for 2 ins pipe with neoprene boot and shock
mounting and extra stays. \$50.00

2M TRANSVERTER. New "EUROPA" B 28 to 144 m/h. "Hot" receiver,
advertised 200 watts PEP on transmit, aerial switching, meter,
Plugs into socket provided on Yaesu gear for all power and
switches off the finals in the transceiver. Can vouch for the
effectiveness of these units on 2m sideband. \$190.00

2M FM. Yaesu FT2FB in top condition and complete with mic.
brackets and manual. Repeaters Melbourne, Geelong, Ballarat
Grampians and simplex 40 \$150.00

TV Camera and Monitor. Brand new (never unpacked) ASTOR made in
Japan. Complete with camera mounting all cables, interphone.
A complete closed circuit video system adaptable for amateur
TV use. A real bargain at \$550.00

VK3DS 114 Brittain Street

Ph 323226.

WANTED

Back issues of Amateur Radio Action from Issue 1 to Volume
3 Issue 12

FOR SALE

Amateur T.V.I. filter in good condition. \$15.00

SELL OR SWAP

Realistic DX-100 communications receiver. \$90.00
Covers 520KHz to 30 MHz in 4 bands.
Will trade for a SX-190 communications receiver

See Peter Kenyon, 27 Gent St Ballarat

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WORLD WIDE PREFIX CHANGES

There have been quite a few prefix changes recently due to countries becoming independent and they are a bit hard to keep up with. Here are the ones that I have heard of. Hope they are of some use to you.

73's

VK3VU

A7X (Qatar) is now A71

A2 (Botswana) is now A22

DM-DT (G.D.R.) is now Y2-Y9 (Y3 is a club station)

KZ5 is now deleted.

VP1 (Belize) is now V3

VP2A (Antigua) is now V2

VP2D (Dominica) is now J7

VP2L (St Lucia) is now J6

VP2S (St Vincent) is now J8

VR8 (Tuvalu) is now T2

VR1 (Phoenix Is) is now T31

VR1 (Gilbert and Ocean Is) is now T30

VR3 (Christmas and Northern Line Is) is now T32

ZE (Zimbabwe) is now Z2

There is also a new country which counts towards DXCC and that is 1A0 (Knights of Malta)

Incidentally, the Knights of Malta are represented in Australia by that well known group, The St Johns Ambulance Brigade.

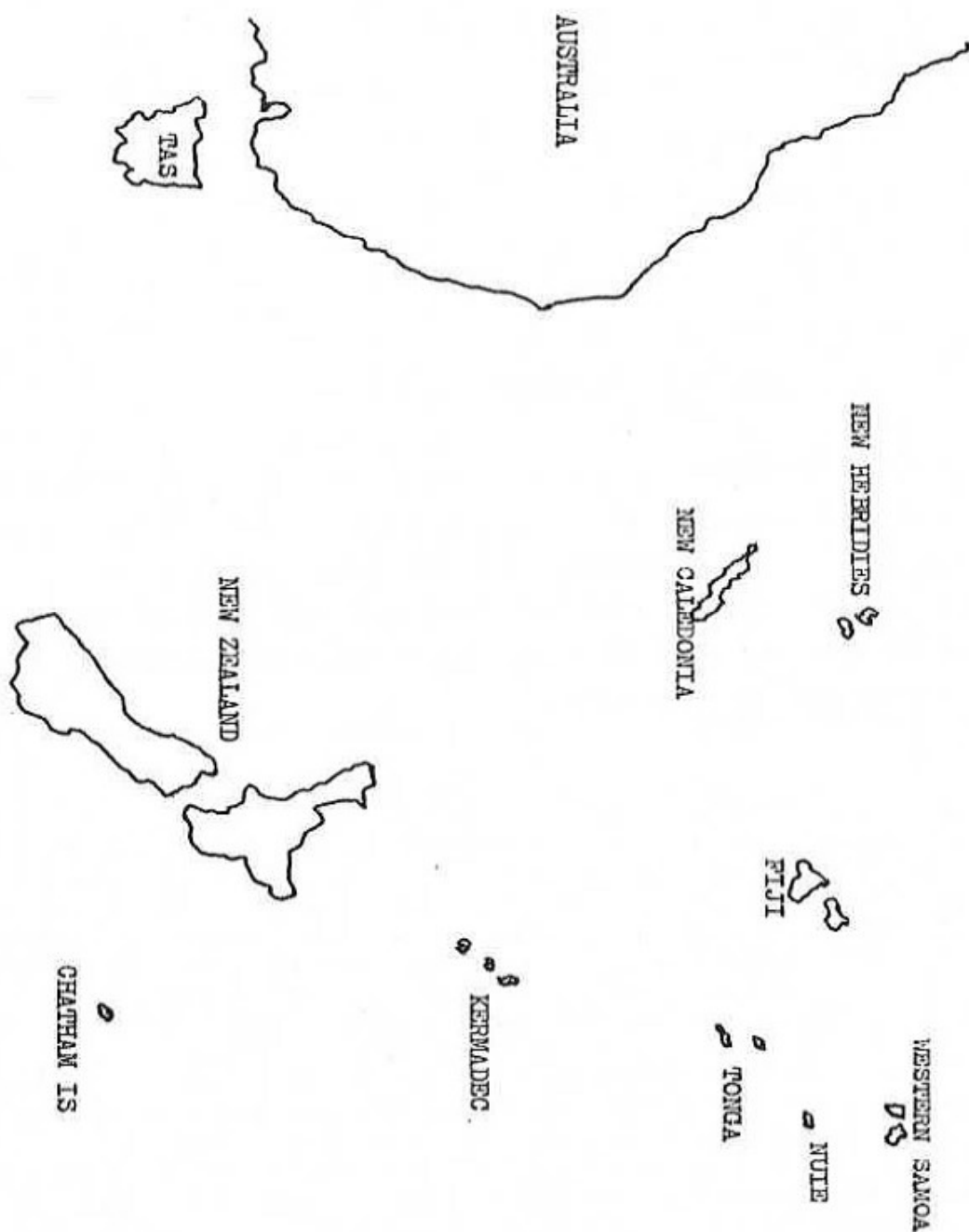
AN INTERNATIONAL VISITOR TO BALLARAT

Katzu, JA4HZQ recently visited Ballarat and was able to meet some of the local amateurs whilst sampling the local brew at the QTH of Henry, VK3VMO. They are pictured below . 1-r Ernie VK3DET, Ian VK3BTX, Clarry VK3VEI, Cliff VK3PAF, Leo VK3DET and Katzu JA4HZQ. VK3VMO behind the camera.



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If you worked K8LX during one of the recent contests you may be interested in the antenna system he has at his QTH. It is as follows:

- 80 Mx Delta loop at 60m (195')
- 40 Mx 3 element yagi at 60m (195')
- 20 Mx 2 x 4 el yagis (one at 42m (137') and one at 23m (74'))
- 15 Mx 4 element quad at 32m (105')
- 10 Mx 4 phased 4 element yagis at 29m (95')

Not a bad system..... 73's Dick VK3VU

JOHN MOYLE NATIONAL FIELD WEEKEND

George VK3VEL/XEN is this years organizer of the NFD. If he has asked you to supply equipment, tents etc then please confirm with him at the next meeting. This will be the last opportunity to do some last minute organization. Please don't let your club down because this year with the new location in the Pentland hills we have our best chance yet of winning. All it takes is some help from the members and we can knock that Geelong mob off their perch.

PACIFIC ISLAND DX=PELITION

Approximately 9 months ago Dick VK3VU was planning a second trip to Tonga but this time he was going minus the wife. A chance mention to me about it to me and the next thing I know I'm to be second operator on my first dx-pedition. We had originally planned to include Wallis Is (FV8) but the air service was discontinued and the only flights are now via New Caledonia which was too far from Tonga and the other islands. After much discussion we decided to go to Fiji (3D2), Western Samoa (5W1) Niue Is (ZK2), Tonga (A35) and then back to Fiji for the flight home to VK land. Then followed much letter writing and the sending of copies of certificates etc after which all the necessary permissions arrived from all the locations and we were definately going. We will be operating on all HF bands and hope to be in contact with Ballarat stations. 6Mx and Oscar will also be receiving attention. Equipment that will be going along with us includes an IC701, TS1 0 and external VFO. IC502 with 20W linear for 6Mx and FT480R and 100W amplifier for Oscar. Antennas include a trapped vertical for HF along with dipoles. We will also be taking along some of the wire yagis (The VK3DS variety asdescribed previously in this magazine) for 20 and 15 Mx. We want to be able to work all Ballarat stations who require any of these countries so if you hear us on then let the others know. The dates are as follows;

Western Samoa	3rd - 10th March
Niue	11th - 25th March
Tonga	25th March - 14th April
Fiji	15th - 20th April

73's,

ERNIE VK3DET

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